

# Footprints

Issue No. CCXXIX

September 2021.

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Copy by 15<sup>th</sup> of month, please.

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## Coffee at Cotheridge

with stalls

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September

10.30 – 12 noon

at Cotheridge Church

Stalls: Coffee and cake, plants and produce,  
bread and cakes, Good quality children's toys  
and children's books, jams and chutneys,  
raffle

Contributions can either be brought  
on the day or beforehand to:

Avril Willis or Pauline Key for the children's stall

Helen Walker for bread and cakes (from 17<sup>th</sup>)

Heather Dale for plants etc

Pauline Key for jams and chutneys

Any queries, contact Pauline on 01905 333526

# Church Words by Rev. Canon David Sherwin

Climate Change is very much on the lips of us all for one reason or another, it is highlighted this month on the 5<sup>th</sup> September in the churches of our Worcestershire West Rural team (WWRT) when we shall consider our Christian responsibility on what is being called ‘Climate Sunday‘.

It is important as Christians that we take seriously the role give to us by our Creator in the early chapters of Genesis, to have dominion, subdue, and replenish the earth. This is not to ravage the earth of its resources in a selfish uncaring way, nor to exploit the earth but to exert a wise caring stewardship of all that God has given to us for the benefit of all humanity, not just a few, and to treat the earth with respect.

*Genesis 1:28, [ESV](#): "And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.""*

We are told by St. Paul in his letter to the Roman church that the ‘sin’ of humankind affects the Creation and it is groaning under that weight and awaits its own redemption.

Obviously not everything that we have done has been a deliberate attempt to damage the creation. We would not have the technological and medical advances that we enjoy without the industrial revolution, yet we have learned along the way that as we progress we need to use cleaner and more eco friendly sources of power and energy to continue to move forward.

We in the Churches of the WWRT are using a survey from an organisation called ‘Arocha’, to assess our buildings and ways of working so that we can work towards being more ecologically friendly and show our care for the earth and one another. The survey leads to churches being given Gold, Silver, or Bronze awards, we already have St. Bartholomew’s In Harpley with a Silver award and St. Peter’s Martley with Bronze. One of our Team Priests, Rev Jen Denniston is heading a group of ‘eco champions’, a member from each of our churches, who have responsibility for questions surrounding environment and ecology that help us in our progress. These awards are not an end in themselves but to help us to be aware of how we can all

play our part in caring for the earth. There is much more on the website that can help us all if you would like to view it. (<https://www.arochoa.org/en/projects/>)

We are also blessed to have within our area Shane and Candy Connelly who have been offering help with approaches to floristry that avoids the use of ‘oasis’, which contain microplastics, and encourages the use of indigenous flowers in our displays. Shane himself will be ‘in conversation’ with the Bishop of Dudley addressing such issues, when the video is available, we will let you know so you can view it.

In the meantime, as COP26 meets in Glasgow we may feel that is something beyond us, that’s for governments and others, yet even their reports highlight that we can all play our part. We all know that every little helps and there are plenty of things we can do, for each of us those challenges will be different, but as we work together, we can fulfil our duty as ‘stewards of the earth’ and in doing so show great care and love for one another, and the generations to come.

God bless you all

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## **Services for September 2021**

### **September 5<sup>th</sup>**

10.30 am – Martley Holy Communion

10.30 am – Broadwas Morning Worship

### **September 12<sup>th</sup>**

10.30 am – Wichenford Holy Communion

3.00 pm – Knightwick

### **September 19<sup>th</sup>**

10.30 am – Martley Morning Worship

10.30 am – Broadwas Holy Communion

### **September 26<sup>th</sup>**

3.30 pm – Forest Church at Almshouse Wood, Suckley.

6.00 pm – Martley Harvest Service

6.30 pm – Cotheridge Evensong



Our President, Heather Dale, invited us to an afternoon meeting in her garden. We brought our own picnic and enjoyed hot drinks chatting in the beautiful surroundings. It was a very relaxing time and we were able to enjoy some sunshine. Thank you, Heather.

Our **September** meeting is on **15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm** when our speaker will be a Worcester Street Pastor.

Susan Reeve

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continued from Footprints - August 2021

**Some more local history** - taken from the Worcester Herald Newspaper late 1920's and early 1930's and signed by "A Stroller" – This was a long running series of Worcestershire parish descriptions and histories written by Frederick Corbett, a local county solicitor.

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## **BROADWAS**

### **THE MANORIAL MILLS**

The broad expanse of water, from which the manor took its name, must have served as a capacious mill-pond; and Domesday found a manorial mill so well supplied with water that it could be relied on to grist the corn of Grimley and Hallow, when their local mill streams failed.

In 1240, when the cloth industry was making way in Worcestershire, there were two mills at Broadwas, one devoted to "fulling" and the other to flour; and the latter (still found there in 1776), had the exclusive right of gristing the corn of manorial tenants. To protect this monopoly, a custom, enforceable in the Lords' Courts, prescribed that a tenant carrying corn for gristing elsewhere, forfeited his horse to the Prior, and the gristed meal to the Steward of the Manor.

There were rules as to the order of procedure in the use of the mill.

The Prior was entitled to first turn, and the Parson to the second.

There were other regulations as to grinding malt for brewing. That of Manorial tenants intended for private brewing, was ground toll-free; but when beer was sold, a toll of four gallons became payable.

In recognition that the mill was a “public utility,” when new-stones became necessary, all tenants of the manor could be called on to help in bringing and fixing them.

### **POLLARDS.**

There is but little woodland; and Nash 150 years ago mentioned a scarcity of timber. There were few trees, except in hedge-rows; and those mostly pollarded, in order to supply tenants with hop-poles.

Nash also referred to the dispersion of fields belonging to the same farms, as a drawback to cultivation. This was a not uncommon feature of ancient manors; original grants in which gave to copyholders scattered plots, so that each should have a fair share of good land, bad and indifferent, plough-land, grassing and hayfield.

The copyhold tenure, which preserved each ancient grant as a unit, was an obstacle to consolidation; and the dispersion to which Nash referred still prevailed when I first knew Broadwas, more than seventy years ago.

### **HOW EDUCATION GREW.**

Education at Broadwas should, as at Martley, have dated from medieval times, and preserved memories of a Chantry. John de Bradwas’ foundation, to which I shall refer later, was much better endowed than the Martley Chantry, and with two priests inadequately occupied, might in this way have justified itself and avoided extinction by atrophy.

Monkish greed and indifference to obvious duty lost the opportunity; and left the parish waiting until Victorian times. The, when, following the reform of Parliament, the school-master, as in the days of the “Renaissance,” once more “went abroad,” he met at Broadwas with the welcome denied four centuries earlier; and although the endowment was gone, swept away by a deluge which overwhelmed the Priory, a school, indebted to no generous founder, “grew” spontaneously, like Mrs Becher Stowe’s “Topsy.”

Funds being scarce, makeshifts were adopted, and in 1838 a church-porch was formed into a school-room. There, some half-score years later, Mr Noake found thirty-five children gathered in a Sunday school; taught by the Rector's wife, Mrs Sanders, helped by volunteer parishioners; and learnt that on week-days the porch was similarly used as a "Dame-school."

It was all very primitive, but served; and was a "stepping stone to higher things." Victorians were very resourceful and earnest. In 1876. After a struggle of thirty-eight years, a "National School" was opened, sufficiently commodious to accommodate all the children of Broadwas, and provided with two teachers.

### **AN EARLY POSTAL SERVICE.**

The postal service of early Victorian days was equally primitive. Mr Noake found it to consist of a box fixed to the window of the village inn from which letters were collected by a passing postman, who walked from and to Worcester daily, rendering similar service to other villages. A rural postman's "round" in those times was usually about twenty miles a day, and his pay twelve shillings a week, which being some fifty per cent above the average wage of an agricultural labourer and "a regular job," with some leisure at mid-day, made the position much sort after, and placed the postman on the same social footing as a village tradesman.

He could also add to his income by delivering, or on agreed signal, collecting, letters at wayside farms, a service gladly remunerated, as there was no public delivery, and the only alternative was for those who expected a letter to enquire for it at the Red Lion, where, until called for, it lay, handled and canvassed by landlord and, especially, landlady, and by inquisitive frequenters; and where callers were expected to become customers "for the good of the house," which, on this expectation, was placed at the service of the Postmaster-General rent free.

In later years the use of the village inns as post-offices was discouraged and even abandoned; but the exchange to a village grocery only substituted half a pound of sugar for a mug of beer previously obtained with each letter.

[To be continued as space allows ]

Worcester & Malvern Hills  
**ageUK**

**Online Maintenance Cognitive Stimulation Therapy**

**Contact us**  
01905 724294  
01684 560666  
fi@ageukwmh.org

Starting August, join us from the comfort of your own home. Maintenance Cognitive Stimulation Therapy is a weekly, online group based programme, designed for people living with mild to moderate dementia. Members attending the programmes have the opportunity to try different meaningful and stimulating activities; proven to maintain memory and mental functioning.

**What does the service offer?**

- Weekly online programmes
- 45 minute programme that will feature a variety of fun, meaningful and stimulating activities for everyone
- Free IT support to get connected to the group
- Links to other Age UK Worcester & Malvern Hills services (including Dementia Meeting Centres)
- Signposting to other local and specialist support

**What can you expect from our online programme?**

- Dance
- Word games and puzzles
- Ad musical & reminiscing to music
- Creative activities
- Themed discussions
- Support from a coordinator who will ensure that our service is built around your needs and who will deal with any questions or concerns

## **COFFEE MORNING**

We would just like to thank everyone who helped and supported the Coffee Morning at Willowbeck at the end of July. Unfortunately, so many events have had to be cancelled over the past eighteen months, this was a good opportunity to get together and raise some money for our local Churches.

Chris & Glenys

# Village Information

## **Church Officials:**

Priest in Charge - Rev David Sherwin 01886 888664

Assistant Priest - Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897

Churchwardens – Lower Teme Valley Parish

Rob Pearce 01886 821959

Peter Walker 01886 822137

## **Parish Councils**

Broadwas & Cotheridge : [www.broadwas-cotheridge.com](http://www.broadwas-cotheridge.com)

Chairman – Robert Burrows

Clerk – Carole Hirst tel: 07903 377066 (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm)

Email : [parishclerk@broadwas-cotheridge.com](mailto:parishclerk@broadwas-cotheridge.com)

Knightwick & Doddenham

Clerk – Geoffrey Brewin 01886 821386

**Village Hall—Broadwas** Geoff Winkworth, Chairman,  
01886 822215

and for all Bookings - Timesavers - 01905 812456,

[www.timesaversconcierge.co.uk](http://www.timesaversconcierge.co.uk)

## **Clubs and Societies**

Broadwas Sports Assoc. Sec. - David Creed-Newton - 01886 880534  
[davidcreednewton@btinternet.com](mailto:davidcreednewton@btinternet.com)

Croquet Club – John Guy 01905 748192

Royal British Legion – Sue Ganderton 01905 422711

W.I. – Barbara Lloyd 01905 333635

## **Schools:**

Broadwas C of E Primary School - Secretary 01886 821347

Bumblebees : Pre-school/Out-of-School Care 07817637241

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